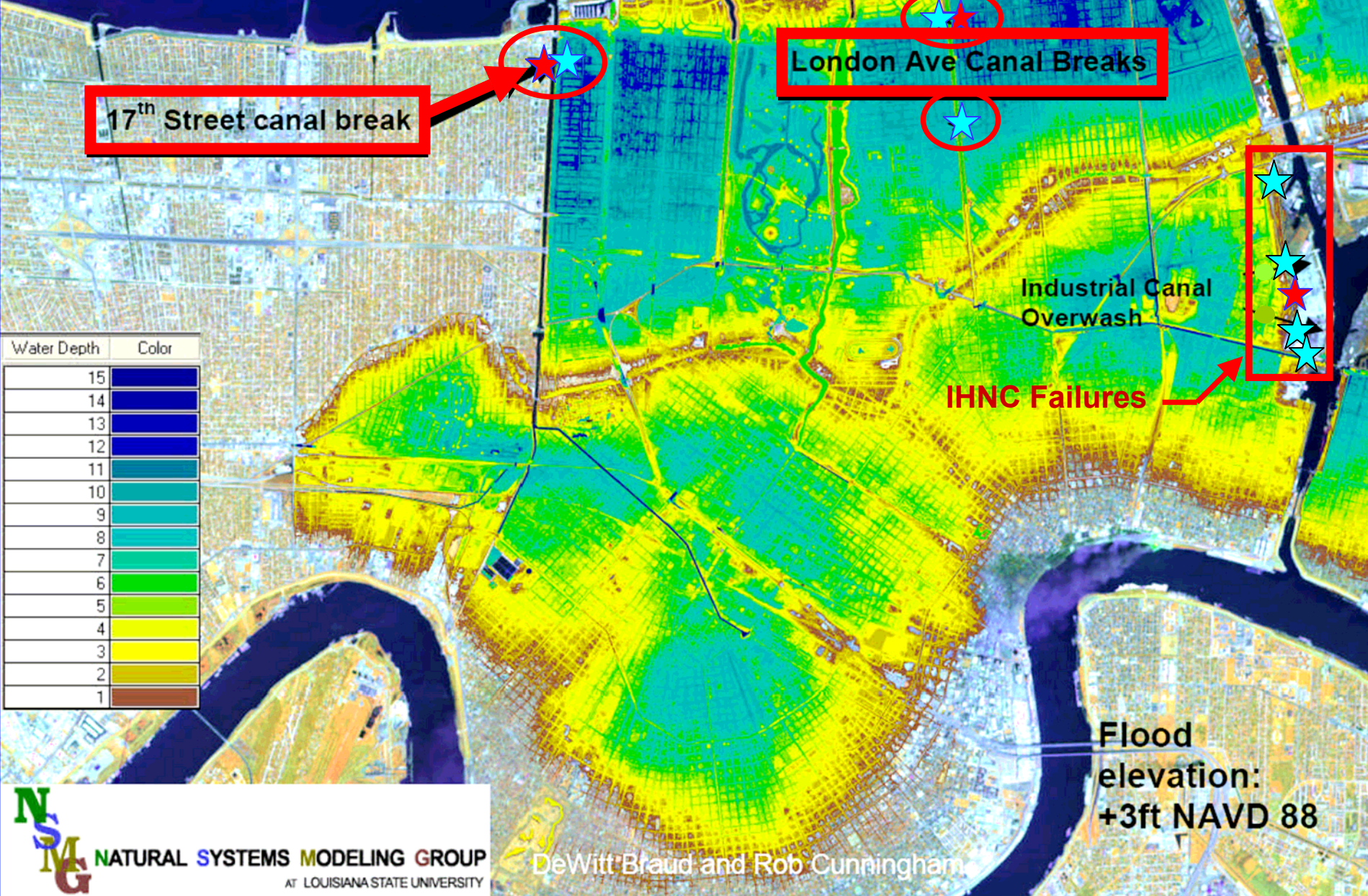


Figure 3 - 10 M SPOT Satellite Image: 2 Sept 2005
With Water depth overlays



17th Street and London Avenue Canals

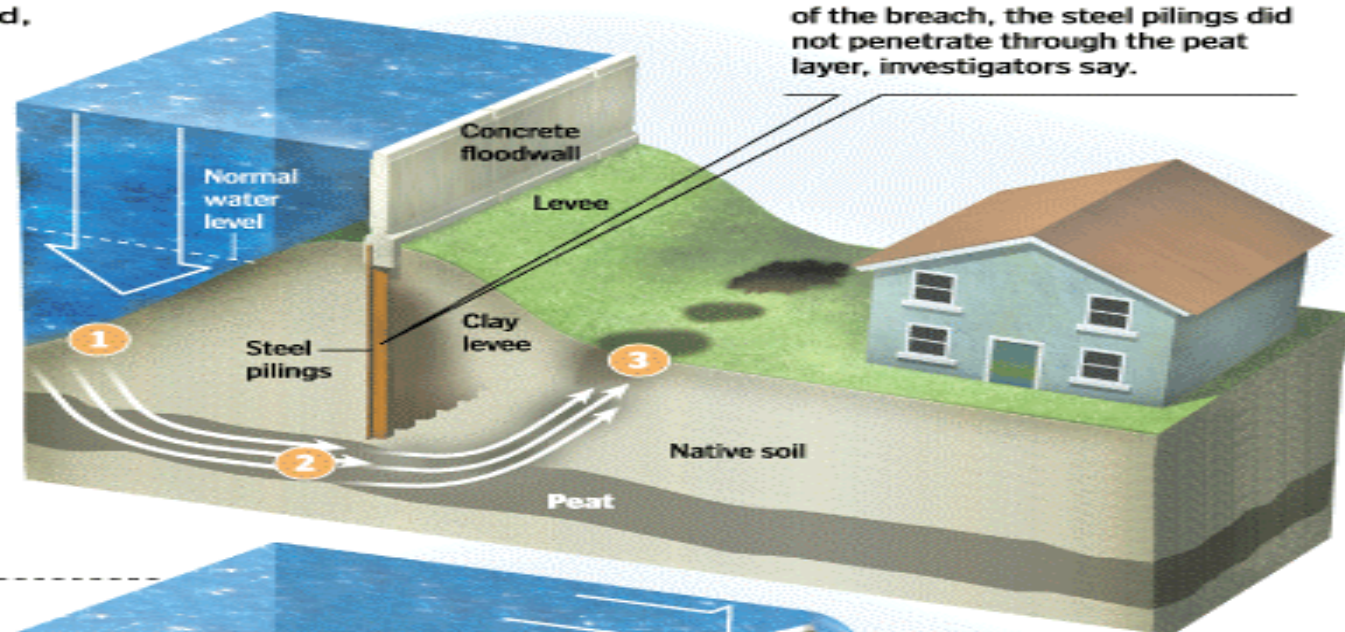
The levee at the 17th Street Canal was built atop soils that included a layer of soft, organic soil called peat. At the 17th Street Canal breach, water traveling through the peat layer may have weakened the levee's foundation, investigators say. The levees along the London Avenue Canal failed in a similar fashion.

1 Water seeps through soil levees under normal conditions. During the storm, as water rose in the canal, water pressure increased, and seepage increased.

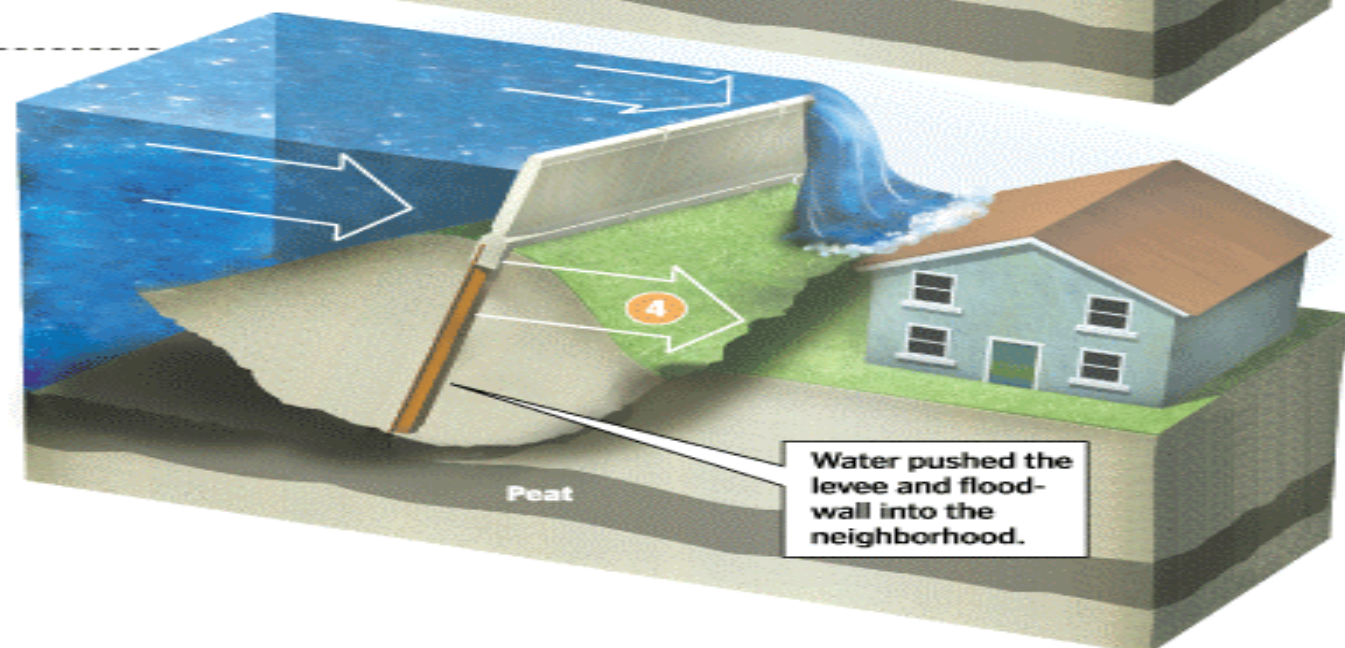
2 Peat is a weak soil. Water seeping into the peat layer had an easy path under the levee and weakened both the peat layer and the soils above it.

3 Water began to create a tunnel in the soils above the peat, at the base of the levee. The base weakened and washed away.

Steel pilings prevent seepage and provide support for the concrete floodwall. But at the site of the breach, the steel pilings did not penetrate through the peat layer, investigators say.



4 The floodwall and levee could no longer resist the force of the water in the canal. Both slid 35 feet into the neighborhood, and water raced in.



17th Street Canal



Floodwalls not designed for overtopping



10.04.2005 12:08

Levees not armored





Incredible 'gaps' in the flood protection system

Legend

- Levee Breaches
- Pump Stations
- High Water Marks

Flood Depths

- < 1 ft.
- 1-2 ft.
- 2-4 ft.
- 4-6 ft.
- 6-8 ft.
- 8-10 ft.
- > 10 ft.

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Actual Katrina Inundation



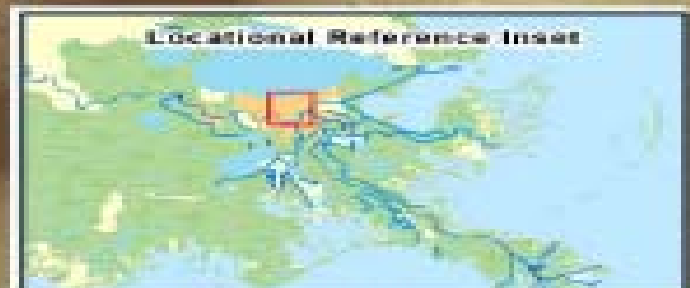
Legend

[P] Pump Stations

Flood Depths



Katrina – No Breaches



An aerial photograph showing a large-scale disaster. A wide, light-colored levee runs diagonally from the upper center towards the bottom right, separating a flooded area on the right from a devastated residential area on the left. The residential area is covered in debris, with many houses destroyed or severely damaged. A road runs parallel to the levee on the left side. In the background, a bridge spans a body of water. The text 'The hurricane flood protection system failed because of failures in:' is overlaid in large, bold, yellow, italicized font across the center of the image.

The hurricane flood protection system failed because of failures in:

Foresight

*we ignored early warning
signs and failed to take
adequate precautions*